GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1806
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006
JOINT COMMITTEE MEET ON INDO -FRENCH TRADE
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and France have expanded and diversify bilateral trade and investment;

(b) if so, the details of the Indo-French Joint Committee meetings held during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) the details of the discussions held and agreements signed between both the countries; and

(d) the extent to which trade between these countries is likely to be increased?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two meetings of Indo-French Joint Committee were held during the period 2002-2005. The 12th Session was held in Paris on 4 November 2003 and the 13th Session was held in New Delhi on 9 December 2004. During the current year, the 14th Session was held in Paris on 31 May 2006.

(c) In these meetings, the two sides discussed ways and means for promoting bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation in various sectors. The two countries signed the Agreement on cooperation in the fields of agriculture, fisheries, rural development, forestry and food industries on 4 November 2003.

(d) The two countries have targeted to double bilateral trade within 5 years.